

### REMARKS

The present application is a continuation application of U.S. Application No. 09/356,692, filed July 20, 1999, which is a continuation of Application No. 08/380,336, filed January 30, 1995 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,014,169, issued January 11, 2000), which is a continuation of Application No. 07/928,099, filed August 13, 1992 (abandoned), which is a continuation of Application No. 07/715,457, filed June 14, 1991 (abandoned), the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

The present Preliminary Amendment is being filed together with the continuation application papers.

Claims 12 to 26 are presented for examination herein; Claims 12, 17 and 23 are the independent claims. Claims 1 to 11 have been cancelled herein. Claims 12 to 26 are newly presented herein.

The title has been amended herein.

The claims have been amended herein to re-present the claims set forth in parent Application No. 09/356,692, which has been abandoned in favor of the present continuation application.

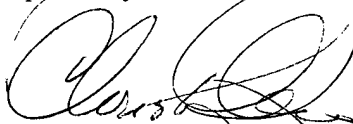
The specification has been amended herein to reference the domestic priority data, and to improve its form. The abstract of the disclosure also has been amended to improve its form. No new matter has been added.

Filed concurrently herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement citing the art of record in parent Application No. 09/356,692.

Favorable consideration of the application and early passage to issue respectfully are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 32,078

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
CPW\gmc

DC\_MAIN 148717v1